CLAIMS

1   1.   A method for determining a cost differential
2   resulting from migrating computational processing capacity
3   from a first computer platform to a second computer
4   platform, the method comprising the steps of:

5   providing information on usage for said first computer
6   platform and for said second computer platform;

7   determining, based upon said provided information, the
8   required processing capacity for said first computer
9   platform and said second computer platform;

10   deriving a cost and capacity measurement for said first
11   computer platform and for said second computer platform;

12   determining an amount of said required processing
13   capacity to be migrated from said first computer platform
14   and an associated amount of said required processing
15   capacity to be migrated to said second computer platform;
16   and

17   deriving a cost and capacity measurement for said first
18   computer platform after said migration and for said second
19   computer platform after said migration.

1   2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said provided
2   usage information include current and planned usage for said
3   first computer platform and for said second computer
4   platform.

3. A method according to claim 1 wherein said providing step further includes the steps of:

providing any available information on current and planned use of computers and computational workloads for said first computer platform and said second computer platform; and

providing any available information on current and planned cost for said first computer platform and for said second computer platform.

4. A method according to claim 3 wherein said current and planned cost includes costs associated with hardware and software and support required for said first computer platform and for said second computer platform.

5. A method according to claim 3 wherein an available portion of said information on said current and said planned use of computers, computational workloads and cost may be provided and wherein a remaining portion of said information is generated using a data model for said information.

6. A method according to claim 5 wherein said step of determining said required processing capacity further includes using a processing data model to relate said information on said use of computers and computational workloads on said first computer platform and said second computer platform to respective measures of required processing capacity therefor.

1 7. A method according to claim 6 wherein said data
2 model includes industry average information on use and cost
3 and said processing data model includes the Transactions Per
4 Minute metric.

1 8. A method according to claim 1 wherein said required
2 processing capacity to be migrated from said first computer
3 platform and said associated required processing capacity to
4 be migrated to said second computer platform is associated
5 with the migration of one or more computational workloads
6 from said first computer platform to said second computer
7 platform.

1 9. A method according to claim 1 wherein said deriving
2 step further includes the steps of:

3 combining said usage information and said determined
4 required processing capacity to produce a first value for
5 the capacity and cost associated with the first computer
6 platform, and a second value for the capacity and cost
7 associated with said second computer platform, as well as a
8 total value for capacity and total cost associated with the
9 aggregate of said first and second computer platforms.

1   10. A method according to claim 9 further including the

2   steps of:

3   calculating a post-migration first value for the

4   processing capacity and cost associated with the first

5   computer platform after said migration and a post-migration

6   second value for the processing capacity and cost associated

7   with said second computer platform after said migration as

8   well as a post-migration total value for the total

9   processing capacity and total cost associated with the

10 aggregate of said first and second computer platforms after

11 said migration.

1   11. A method according to claim 10 wherein the step of

2   calculating the post migration values further includes

3   determining a cost savings resulting from the migration of

4   the capacity from the first computer platform and the

5   additional cost resulting from the migration of the

6   associated processing capacity to the second computer

7   platform.

1   12. A method according to claim 3 wherein said current

2   and planned cost information further include the cost

3   associated with the availability characteristics of said

4   first computer platform and said second computer platform.

1   13. A method according to claim 3 wherein said planned

2   information on use of said computers as well as said

3   computational workloads and said planned information on said

4   costs is provided for a period of time to enable an analysis

5   of the time variant cost of a migration of at least one of

6   said computational workloads.

1   14. A method according to claim 6 further including the
2   steps of :

3   retaining the provided information and said cost and
4   capacity measurements associated with successive iterations
5   of said method; and

6   using said retained information and said retained
7   measurements to successively refine the data model and the
8   processing data model.

1   15. A program storage device readable by a digital
2   processing apparatus and tangibly embodying a program of
3   instructions executable by the digital processing apparatus
4   to perform method steps for determining a cost differential
5   resulting from migrating computational processing capacity
6   from a first computer platform to a second computer
7   platform, the method steps comprising:

8   providing information on usage for said first computer
9   platform and for said second computer platform;

10   determining, based upon said provided information, the
11   required processing capacity for said first computer
12   platform and said second computer platform;

13   deriving a cost and capacity measurement for said first
14   computer platform and for said second computer platform;
15   and

16   determining an amount of said required processing
17   capacity to be migrated from said first computer platform
18   and an associated amount of said required processing
19   capacity to be migrated to said second computer platform;

20   deriving a cost and capacity measurement for said first
21   computer platform after said migration and for said second
22   computer platform after said migration.

1   16. A program storage device according to claim 15
2   wherein said provided usage information include current and
3   planned usage for said first computer platform and for said
4   second computer platform.

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17. A program storage device according to claim 15 wherein said providing method step further includes the method steps of:

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providing any available information on current and planned use of computers and computational workloads for said first computer platform and said second computer platform; and

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providing any available information on current and planned cost for said first computer platform and for said second computer platform.

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18. A program storage device according to claim 17 wherein said current and planned cost includes costs associated with hardware and software and support required for said first computer platform and for said second computer platform.

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19. A program storage device according to claim 17 wherein an available portion of said information on said current and said planned use of computers, computational workloads and cost may be provided and wherein a remaining portion of said information is generated using a data model for said information.

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20. A program storage device according to claim 19 wherein said method step of determining said required processing capacity further includes using a processing data model to relate said information on said use of computers and computational workloads on said first computer platform and said second computer platform to respective measures of required processing capacity therefor.

21. A program storage device according to claim 20 wherein said data model includes industry average information on use and cost and said processing data model includes the Transactions Per Minute metric.

22. A program storage device according to claim 15 wherein said required processing capacity to be migrated from said first computer platform and said associated required processing capacity to be migrated to said second computer platform is associated with the migration of one or more computational workloads from said first computer platform to said second computer platform.

23. A program storage device according to claim 15 wherein said deriving method step further includes the method steps of:

combining said usage information and said determined required processing capacity to produce a first value for the capacity and cost associated with the first computer platform, and a second value for the capacity and cost associated with said second computer platform, as well as a total value for capacity and total cost associated with the aggregate of said first and second computer platforms.

24. A program storage device according to claim 23
further including the method steps of:

    calculating a post-migration first value for the
processing capacity and cost associated with the first
computer platform after said migration and a post-migration
second value for the processing capacity and cost associated
with said second computer platform after said migration as
well as a post-migration total value for the total
processing capacity and total cost associated with the
aggregate of said first and second computer platforms after
said migration.

25. A program storage device according to claim 24
wherein the method step of calculating the post migration
values further includes determining a cost savings resulting
from the migration of the capacity from the first computer
platform and the additional cost resulting from the
migration of the associated processing capacity to the
second computer platform.

26. A program storage device according to claim 17
wherein said current and planned cost information further
include the cost associated with the availability
characteristics of said first computer platform and said
second computer platform.

27. A program storage device according to claim 17
wherein said planned information on use of said computers as
well as said computational workloads and said planned
information on said costs is provided for a period of time
to enable an analysis of the time variant cost of a
migration of at least one of said computational workloads.

1   28. A program storage device according to claim 20
2   further including the method steps of :

3   retaining the provided information and said cost and
4   capacity measurements associated with successive iterations
5   of said method; and

6   using said retained information and said retained
7   measurements to successively refine the data model and the
8   processing data model.

1   29. A system for determining a cost differential
2   resulting from migrating computational processing capacity
3   from a first computer platform to a second computer
4   platform, the system comprising:

5   a storage base for providing information on usage for
6   said first computer platform and for said second computer
7   platform;

8   means for determining, based upon said provided
9   information, the required processing capacity for said first
10 computer platform and said second computer platform;

11   means for deriving a cost and capacity measurement for
12 said first computer platform and for said second computer
13 platform;

14   means for determining an amount of said required
15 processing capacity to be migrated from said first computer
16 platform and an associated amount of said required
17 processing capacity to be migrated to said second computer
18 platform; and

19   means for deriving a cost and capacity measurement for
20 said first computer platform after said migration and for
21 said second computer platform after said migration.